LUCK OF ROOSEVELT.

The Hand of Fate Manifest in the President's Career —Old Republicans Warm to the Chief Magistrate Because of the Washington Dinner.

(From the Boston Advertiser)

People who have been saying all along that Theodore Roosevelt's extraordinarily rapid rise is sheer luck have now, at length, at least, some solid ground of appearance on which to rest their claim.

A great many things that seemed to be comparatively trivial in themselves turned out to his advantage; such as, for a few instances, his appointment to the civil service commissionership just when the spoils mongers were beginning to make themselves so recklessly disgusting that decent people were ready to throw up their hats in honor of any man who could thwart them; his entrance into the police commissionership of New York precisely at a time when everybody was sick and mad on account of the corrupt feebleness of New York's police force; his transfer to Washington as assistant secretary of the navy on the verge of the outbreak of the war with Spain; a position from which it was easy for Roosevelt to obtain the military appointment for service in Cuba which led straight on to the picturesqueness of the Rough Riders' regiment and the El Cany exploits, which more than made up in appeals to popular imagination whatever may have been lacking in solid warfare; and the close of the Spanish-American war precisely in time, not a day too soon or too late, to furnish the very candidate Senator Platt desperately needed to enable him to "down" Gov. Black for insubordination, and at the same time to keep the State of New York from slipping back into the democratic hands, which it came perilously near doing.

ROOSEVELT IN ALBANY.

But the rapid succession of events propitious to Roosevelt's rise did not come to an end with is election in 1898 as Governor of New York. Roosevelt took his seat at Albany, by a curious coincidence, at a juncture when a dashing, daring, and at the same time not too "impractical," Governor had such an opportunity as no other republican Governor of New York has had in forty years; to please the head of the party organization by making himself both useful and necessary; to bring delight to anti-boss republicans by kicking over the traces now and then, and to make himself solid with independents by taking the bit between his teeth. and going his own pace, without paying any other heed to the party whip than slightly laying back his ears. No wonder such a governor was hailed by sharp-sighted politicians as surely the coming dark horse!

If Gov. Roosevelt had been a bit more subservient to Platt, the easy boss would have insisted upon renominating him to that office; and political usage to say nothing of the governor's own avowed preferences at that time, would have brought it about. On the other hand, if he had broken altogether with Platt, the Philadelphia convention would not so far broken all precedents as to nominate for a place on the ticket a man out of favor with the party organization in his own State.

THE WASHINGTON DINNER.

And now comes the Booker Washington dinner. It was a little dinner. Considered by any standard that is usually employed in measuring dinners in which the public feels concerned, this one was singularly insignificant. It is doubtful if President Roosevelt, shrewd as he is, had any slightest idea in advance that he was doing anything very remarkable when he invited, to a private dinner with himself and family at the executive mansion, a distinguished gentleman, highly bred and scholarly, who is president of the Tusgekee Institute. Probably President Roosevelt's act had no other prompting than the natural and hospitable impulse to welcome at his table a gentleman whose conversation could not fail to be in the highest degree agreeable to a cultivated man of the world, such as Mr. Roosevelt is. If there was any additional motive, it was no doubt the wish to talk over informally the educational movement, so fraught with the happiest prospects for several millions of American citizens, as is that at the head of which Booker T. Washington has long stood.

Ye, "what luck!" Not a dozen carefully prepared campaign orations, not the most brilliant and adroit presidential message sent to Congress, scarcely the most striking triumph of diplomacy regarding the canal treaty, or the Boer war, or reciprocal trade, or our open door in China, could have given President Roosevelt such a sudden access of popularity among at least three-fourths of the people of the Union, as has come to him from inviting Booker Washington to dinner.

AROUSES OLD REPUBLICANS.

It has appealed like a trumpet note to the chivalry of the lovers of freedom everywhere. It has at one stroke aroused dormant enthusiasm in that very large number of republican voters who are old enough to retain memories of the war for the Union and the days of reconstruction: voters of whom not a few have been lately feeling extremely sore on account of what has seemed to them a drift of the republican party back and downward from its best ideals.

At the same time, Americans young or old, republican or democrat, who like courage and who admire sincerity, whose hearts respond to any out-flashing of manly independence, instinctly admire President Roosevelt for that act. They may not indorse it as expedient, but they applaud it as "spunky!" Perhaps they would not have done it themselves, but they are proud to live in a country with a man at its head who dared to do it.

Dunbar and Johnson.

Next month there will be produced in New York a comedy, entitled "The Cannibal King." It was written by Paul Lawrence Dunbar and J. W. Johnson and will be rendered by colored talent only, The fact that Dunbar and Johnson wrote it and that Bob Cole will take the leading part guarantees that it will be well received.—Ex.

It Leads Them All.

The Hotel Dale, Atlantic City N. J is the largest and most complete and most elegantly furnished hotel in the United States for the accommodation of colored people. The proprietor, Mr. E. W. Dale, on account of not being able to give the management his personal attention, would be glad to consider a proposition from some experienced hotel manager for the purchase of this hotel. It will be a paying investment to the right parties. Address E. W. Dale, Cape May, N. J. tf.